Docket No.: 050103-0537

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 49745

Nobuo KURATAKA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 1915

Application No.: 10/603,088 : Group Art Unit: 1765

Filed: June 25, 2003

Allowed: February 22, 2006 : Examiner: Ahmed, Shamim

For: METHOD FOR PROTECTING SURFACE OF STAMPER/IMPRINTER DURING

MANUFACTURE THEREOF

## COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

These Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance are filed in response to the Notice of Allowability mailed on February 22, 2006.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's Statement on Reasons for Allowance.

Entry of that Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the stated reasoning.

The Statement sets forth a single rationale for patentability with respect to all of the allowed claims, however, the wording in the Statement does not precisely correspond to the language of any one of the allowed claims. It is submitted that each independent claim, and in fact each claim, is separately patentable in its own right, not just for one general reason as suggested by the Statement.

**Application No.: 10/603,088** 

It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled the broadest reasonable interpretation and broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Please recognize our Customer No. 49745

as our correspondence address.

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Date: May 22, 2006